

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/692,201

Examiner

Philip B. Tran

Applicant(s)

GIACOBBE ET AL.

Art Unit

2155

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/22/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16, 18-31, 33 and 34 (Renumbered as 1-32).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 10/23/03 & 2/22/06
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date Attached.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

*Philip Tran*  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Dodd (Reg. No. 46,437), the undersigned, on September 14, 2006 and September 19, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 17, 32 and 35 have been canceled.

Claims 1, 10, 24 and 33-34 have been amended.

Amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) In a computer system that is network connectable along with one or more other computer systems to a network, a method presenting message related data at a common messaging interface such that the presented message related data can be accessed more efficiently, the method comprising:

an act of receiving query criteria for a message related query, the query criteria being received at the common messaging interface;

an act of submitting a message related query to an item database in accordance with the query criteria;

an act of receiving a plurality of portions of message related data that satisfy the query criteria, the plurality of portions of message related data including at least a first portion of message related data and including at least a second portion of message related, the first portion of message related data having one or more property fields that are defined in accordance with a first message extension schema differently from one or more property fields of the second portion of message related data that are defined in accordance with a second message extension schema, the first portion of message related data and the second portion of message related data also having one or more common property fields defined in accordance with a message schema; and

an act of displaying at least a link to each of the received portions of message related data at the common messaging interface such that different portions of message related data that have one or more differently defined property fields are displayed together.

Amend claim 10 as follows:

10. (Currently Amended) The method method as recited in claim 1, wherein the act of submitting a message related query to an item database comprises an act of

submitting a message related query for message related data that spans across a plurality of folders.

Amend claim 24 as follows:

24. (Currently Amended) In a computer system that is network connectable along with one or more other computer systems to a network, a method for returning message related data that is to be presented at a common messaging interface such that the presented message related data can be accessed more efficiently, the method comprising:

an act of receiving a message related query from a querying computer system, the message related query including query criteria;

an act of accessing an item database, the item database storing a plurality of portions of message related data, the plurality of portions of message related data including at least a first portion of message related data and including at least a second portion of message related, the first portion of message related data having one or more property fields that are defined differently from one or more property fields of the second portion of message related data, the first portion of message related data and the second portion of message related data also having one or more common property fields defined in accordance with a message schema; and

an act of identifying a plurality of portions of message related data contained in the message database that satisfy the query criteria of the message related query, at

least one identified portion of message related data having one or more property fields that are defined in accordance with a first message extension schema differently from at least one other identified portion of message related data defined in accordance with another different message extension schema ;

an act of returning the plurality of portions of message related data to the querying computer system.

Claim 33 has been amended as follows:

33. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for use in a computer system that is network connectable along with one or more other computer systems to a network, the computer program product for implementing a method presenting message related data at a common messaging interface such that the presented message related data can be accessed more efficiently, the computer program product comprising one or more computer-readable media having stored thereon computer executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, cause the computer system to perform the following:

receive query criteria for a message related query, the query criteria being received at the common messaging interface;

submit a message related query to an item database in accordance with the query criteria;

receive a plurality of portions of message related data that satisfy the query criteria, the plurality of portions of message related data including at least a first portion of message related data and including at least a second portion of message related, the first portion of message related data having one or more property fields that are defined in accordance with a first message extension schema differently from one or more property fields of the second portion of message related data that are defined in accordance with a second message extension schema , the first portion of message related data and the second portion of message related data also having one or more common property fields defined in accordance with a message schema; and

display at least a link to each of the received portions of message related data at the common messaging interface such that different portions of message related data that have one or more differently defined property fields are displayed together.

Claim 34 has been amended as follows:

34. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for use in a computer system that is network connectable along with one or more other computer systems to a network, the computer program product for implementing a method for returning message related data that is to be presented at a common messaging interface such that the presented message related data can be accessed more efficiently, the computer program product comprising one or more computer-readable media having

stored thereon computer executable instructions that, when executed by a processor, cause the computer system to perform the following:

receive a message related query from a querying computer system, the message related query including query criteria;

access an item database, the item database storing a plurality of portions of message related data, the plurality of portions of message related data including at least a first portion of message related data and including at least a second portion of message related data, the first portion of message related data having one or more property fields that are defined differently from one or more property fields of the second portion of message related data, the first portion of message related data and the second portion of message related data also having one or more common property fields defined in accordance with a message schema; and

identify a plurality of portions of message related data contained in the message database that satisfy the query criteria of the message related query, at least one identified portion of message related data having one or more property fields that are defined in accordance with a first message extension schema differently from at least one other identified portion of message related data defined in accordance with another different message extension schema; and

return the plurality of portions of message related data to the querying computer system.

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

3. Claims 1-16, 18-31 and 33-34 (renumbered as claims 1-32) are allowable over the prior art of record.

4. The following is an examiner's statements of reason for allowance:

The examiner has found that the prior art of record does not appear to teach or suggest or render obvious the claimed limitations in combination with the specific added limitations as recited in independent claims and subsequent dependent claims. The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest a method and system of presenting message related data at a common messaging interface such that the presented message related data can be accessed more efficiently, comprising receiving a plurality of portions of message related data that satisfy the query criteria, the plurality of portions of message related data including at least a first portion of message related data and including at least a second portion of message related, the first portion of message related data having one or more property fields that are defined in accordance with a first message extension schema differently from one or more property fields of the second portion of message related data that are defined in accordance with a second message extension schema, the first portion of message related data and the second portion of message related data also having one or more common property fields defined in accordance with a message schema, and displaying at least a link to each of the received portions of message related data at the common messaging interface such that different portions



of message related data that have one or more differently defined property fields are displayed together.

### **ADDITIONAL REFERENCES**

5. The examiner as of general interest cites the following references:

- A) Schmidt, Jr. et al, U.S. Pat. No. 6,778,642.
- B) Luzeski et al, U.S. Pat. No. 6,430,177.
- C) Jennings et al, U.S. Pat. No. 6,430,174.
- D) Skladman et al, U.S. Pat. No. 6,487,278.
- E) Belfiore et al, U.S. Pat. No. 6,990,513.
- F) Gupta et al, U.S. Pat. Application Pub. No. US 2003/0018721 A1.
- G) Lei et al, U.S. Pat. Application Pub. No. US 2004/0203664 A1.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Philip B. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-3991. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

8. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Philip B. Tran  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2155  
September 22, 2006